

MAYOR APPROVES NEW FRANCHISE

Richmond and Henrico Company Wins Long Fight.

AINSLIE GIVES HIS REASONS

Officials of New Company Declare That They Have No Fear of Ordinance Being Illegal. They Say They Have Funds to Complete the Work.

Refusing to reverse the decision of two City Councils and a former Mayor, Mayor Ainslie yesterday afternoon signed the ordinance granting a light and power franchise and extension of tracks to the Richmond and Henrico Railway Company, and returned the bill to City Clerk Ben T. August. Having passed both the Common Council and Board of Aldermen, the signature of the Mayor makes the bill a law. In announcing that he had approved the franchise, Mayor Ainslie gave out the following statement to the newspapers:

"After careful examination of the history and terms of the ordinance granting a light and power franchise to the Richmond and Henrico Railway Company and the questions involved therein, and a careful consideration of the exhaustive arguments for and against the ordinance, I am not convinced that I should override the opinions of the attorneys for the city as to its legality or the judgment of two Councils and the former Mayor as to its policy and terms.

"Under my conception of the veto power in such cases, it should not be exercised unless I am convinced either that the ordinance is plainly in violation of the laws of the State or clearly the result of corrupt, dishonest, or ill-advised legislation. As such is not the case in this instance, I am of opinion to approve the ordinance."

**Reasons of Content.**

This marks the end, temporarily at least, of the hottest franchise fight Richmond has ever seen. The granting of light and power rights to the competing company was bitterly contested by the Virginia Railway and Power Company, which, aside from attacking the ordinance in regard to its validity, did not hesitate to impugn the motives of the applicants for the franchise. At the time the ordinance was passed the Common Council, Henry W. Anderson, president of the company, directly charged that the Richmond and Henrico has no idea of ever putting the grant to its proper use, but will force the old railway to buy it out.

From the vigorous assault made upon the legality of the ordinance just adopted, it is evident that the Virginia Railway and Power Company will at least make an attempt to have it tested in court. Henry W. Anderson, who denounced the validity of the franchise time and time again during the fight, was asked last night if the company intended to contest the ordinance in court, but he declined to commit himself. Mr. Anderson asserted in the hearing before the Mayor that the new franchise is illegal in that it confers legislative functions upon the Street Committee of the Council, which are reserved by the city's charter for the Council alone.

John C. Hagans, secretary and treasurer of the Richmond and Henrico Railway, expressed confidence last night that the franchise would withstand any test.

"While I do not believe the franchise will ever be taken into court, we are prepared to meet our opponents on any ground at any time. When both city attorneys, two Councils and two Mayors—both lawyers—attest the validity of the franchise, we are not disposed to feel shaky about it."

**Terms of Franchise.**

Under the terms of the franchise plans for the franchise to be granted by the city must be submitted to the Street Committee by the Richmond and Henrico Railway within sixty days from yesterday. Mr. Hagans said last night that the proposed route had been worked out in detail and was ready for presentation to the committee on Tuesday. The officers of the company have not decided exactly when the plans are to be filed. The committee is empowered to alter, enlarge or diminish the route proposed by the company.

Other terms of the franchise require that work on the plans be commenced by the Street Committee must begin within three months from the final approval of the ordinance and must be completed within twelve months. In the future extensions of the original route may be made at any time by the passage of an ordinance by the Council.

After a hard fight, the City Council, according to Mr. Hagans, the new company has the funds in hand for the construction work and is ready to begin at once.

**Fight Was Bitter.**

The fight for the franchise has extended over a period of many months and involved two City Councils. The struggle has been the last of its kind in the city, as to whether or not a franchise should be granted to any new company. After a hard fight, the City Council voted to ask bids on the light and power franchise. Only two bids were submitted—one of \$1,000 by a Northern syndicate and another of \$1,000 by the Richmond and Henrico Railway.

With the Virginia Railway and Power Company allied with the Northern syndicate, the forces locked horns in the City Council on November 22, and the Richmond and Henrico Railway won the award by a vote of 14 to 3. On Wednesday, December 4, the bid reached a head before the Council.

(Continued on Fourteenth Page.)

DICKY ACCUSES OFFICERS OF NAVY

At Court-Martial Testifies He Was Coerced Into Signing Statement.

HE IS SENTENCED TO PRISON TERM

Gets Five Years' Confinement at Hard Labor on Charge of "Scandalous Conduct Tending to Destruction of Good Morals." His Sensational Story Is Denied.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

Norfolk, Va., December 14.—Declared to be guilty of "scandalous conduct tending to the destruction of good morals," as charged in the specification on which he was arraigned, W. V. Dickey, chief commissary steward on the battleship Kansas, has been sentenced by the court-martial, which convened here December 2, to five years' confinement at hard labor, the maximum penalty.

Preliminary to an appeal to the Secretary of the Navy, R. Randolph Hicks, of Norfolk, counsel for Dickey, immediately after the announcement of the sentence, took steps to perfect habeas corpus proceedings by which to prevent the transfer of the prisoner to Portsmouth, N. H., where the sentence is to be served. It was said that plans had been made to carry Dickey to Portsmouth at once.

The trial of Dickey was conducted with the utmost secrecy, and neither the exact nature of the charge nor the evidence adduced in the trial was learned until to-day, when Mr. Hicks disclosed the grounds on which he said he would appeal the case to the Secretary of the Navy, and if necessary, to the President.

The court was comprised of Captain Roger Wells, of the battleship Louisiana, president; Commander H. B. Feist, Lieutenant-Commander A. M. Cook, Lieutenant-Commander E. H. Delaney, Paymaster C. H. Peoples, Lieutenant-Commander W. H. Jeffries, Captain J. C. Breckenridge, Captain A. T. Marx, judge advocate.

**Brought \$25,000 Damage Suit.**

A \$25,000 damage suit, alleging false imprisonment in advance of the charge, was brought two weeks ago by Dickey against Rear-Admiral Doyle, of the Norfolk Navy Yard, Captain Wells, Captain Marx and others.

The charge against Dickey arose incident to an investigation by the Navy Department into alleged irregularities on the part of certain government officials, tractors and the Attorney-General, United States Attorney Wilkerson, of Chicago, and Stanley D. Montgomery, Albert G. Welch and Charles P. DeWoody, special assistants to the Attorney-General.

Aside from the dissolution of the two organizations, the government seeks to enjoin the defendants from appointing a price-fixing committee, from fixing prices, from quoting or publishing figures purporting to be "market prices," unless they are based upon bona-fide sales of butter; from demanding that the Elgin price be used as a basis in making fictitious "wash sales" of butter to mislead as to the actual price at which butter is being sold.

**Not Result of Competition.**

The price of butter fixed on the Elgin exchange, the government maintains, is not the result of free and open competition regulated by actual bona-fide sales under the law of supply and demand. The price-fixing committee of the board is dominated and controlled, it is alleged, by large butter manufacturers, known as centralizers, and by cold storage concerns. This committee, the petition adds, "has acted arbitrarily and without any regard to actual values and fixed prices wholly in the interest of the conspirators."

From May to August, when the bulk of the country's supply is made, the petition says, large centralizing concerns are buyers, rather than sellers, of butter, buying up the surplus produced and storing it for winter when the price is enhanced. Consequently, it is declared, the prices of butter fixed by the board during the summer months have been almost invariably below the price at which the product actually has sold upon the market, while during the winter months the prices fixed have been somewhat above market and private sales.

**Used by "Conspirators."**

It is charged that the American Association of Creamery Butter Manufacturers, composed of about forty-six firms and individuals, is used by the "conspirators" to maintain these seasonal differences in price, and to regulate trade conditions or competition. All members of the association are required, it is alleged, to use the price thus established as the basis of their contracts for the purchase or sale of butter.

Before the summer of each year, the petition continues, the large centralizing concerns send representatives throughout the butter producing area, contracting with small manufacturers for their entire season's supply based upon the figures of the Elgin board, usually one-half or one cent higher than the Elgin price. Vast quantities of butter are thus purchased from farmers and others, it is said by members of the defendant association.

"If, therefore," the petition declares, "the price fixed by the Elgin board should fall below the real economic price of butter, as fixed by the law of supply and demand, the profit accruing from the corresponding drop in contract prices goes to the large centralizers upon every pound of butter which has been purchased in advance under contract based upon the Elgin price."

The system by which the price of butter is fixed is not generally known to the widely scattered producers, according to the petition, but "on the contrary, the price is published throughout the United States, in newspapers and otherwise, without any accompanying statement of how it is fixed."

(Continued on Fourth Page.)

SUIT TO DESTROY "BUTTER TRUST"

Attacked by Federal Government Under Sherman Law.

BROAD CHARGES OF CONSPIRACY

Product Bought Up in Summer at Low and Arbitrary Prices for Benefit of Manufacturers and Cold Storage Concerns, to Be Disposed of in Winter.

Chicago, December 14.—The Elgin Board of Trade, popularly known as the "butter trust," and the American Association Creamery and Butter Manufacturers were attacked by the Federal government in a civil anti-trust suit filed here to-day for the dissolution of both concerns.

Sweeping charges of a conspiracy to fix arbitrarily the price of butter in the interest of big manufacturers and cold storage concerns to the detriment of the farmer, other small producers and the consuming public are made by Attorney-General Wickham against the so-called "trust," which he would destroy as a violation of the Sherman law. Butter-making has drifted to the large manufacturers, the natural increase in volume of business has been curtailed and prices to the people of the country have been enhanced, especially during the winter season, by the operating of the "conspirators," according to the government's petition in equity.

**The Defendants.**

The following are named as defendants:

Elgin Board of Trade; Charles H. Potter, Elgin, Ill.; H. C. Christians, Richfield, Wis.; J. P. Mason, Elgin; Colvin W. Brown, Elgin; A. C. Hawley, Jerseyville, Ill.; American Association Creamery Butter Manufacturers (unincorporated); James A. Walker, Chicago; George E. Haskell, Lincoln, Neb.; William D. Hoard, Fort Atkinson, Wis.; George L. McKay, Chicago; E. H. Forney, Abilene, Kansas; Henry Bridgman, Duluth, Minn.; Joseph H. Rushton, Omaha; Charles Harding, Omaha; Arthur S. Hanford, Sioux City, Iowa; Carl W. Kent, Kansas City, Mo.; Henry A. Page, Toledo, O.; Samuel Schlosser, Plymouth, Ind.; William A. Tilden, St. Paul; Samuel P. Wadley, Dubuque, Iowa, and W. T. Sherman White, Chicago.

The bill is signed by Attorney-General Wickham, James A. Fawcett, assistant to the Attorney-General, United States Attorney Wilkerson, of Chicago, and Stanley D. Montgomery, Albert G. Welch and Charles P. DeWoody, special assistants to the Attorney-General.

Aside from the dissolution of the two organizations, the government seeks to enjoin the defendants from appointing a price-fixing committee, from fixing prices, from quoting or publishing figures purporting to be "market prices," unless they are based upon bona-fide sales of butter; from demanding that the Elgin price be used as a basis in making fictitious "wash sales" of butter to mislead as to the actual price at which butter is being sold.

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(Continued on Ninth Page.)

ENVOYS OF GREECE WILL BE ADMITTED

Porte Withdraws Instructions Not to Treat With Them.

BALKAN ALLIANCE NOT ENDANGERED

Optimists Expect No Break in London Peace Negotiations and Believe That Amicable Terms Will Be Arranged Speedily. Meeting Begins in London This Week.

(Special Cable to The Times-Dispatch.)

London, December 14.—With everything ready for the formal opening of the Turkish-Balkan peace conference at St. James Palace, diplomats and on-lookers in the war game were chiefly interested in the attitude toward each other of Turkey and Greece.

The Greek government, so far as was known, has neither signed the protocol of Baghiche nor made another armistice agreement with the Ottoman government. Yet the Greek envoys expect to enter the conference, which will be opened by an address by Sir Edward Grey, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, who has already greeted the peace plenipotentiaries at the Foreign Office.

That there was no misunderstanding among Greece and the Balkan states and that the alliance was in no danger of disintegration, as dispatches emanating from Constantinople stated, was evidenced by the following semi-official statement, published in Athens:

"The fact that Greece has not signed the armistice should not be interpreted as a proof of dissension among the allies. According to explanations furnished here, Greece was particularly anxious that her naval action should not be interpreted to other than the revivification of the Turkish fortresses in Epirus should not be rendered possible. Greece was considering the interests of all her allies rather than her own. The alliance is intact, and with it have been preserved the chances of peace, which would have suffered with the reinforcement of the Dardanelles and the Thessalian garrisons. It has been shown by the recent Turkish-Italian treaty that such agreements need not necessarily be preceded by an armistice, and it is officially announced that the Greek plenipotentiaries will participate in the London peace negotiations."

The foregoing explanation of the Greek attitude, coupled with the Porte's withdrawal of its instructions to Rechid Pasha, chief of the Turkish envoys, not to treat with Greece until that nation signed the protocol, leads the optimists to believe there will be no break in the negotiations.

**Greek Premier Steps Aside.**

The delegates of the allies held a meeting at midnight last night, and on motion of M. Venizelos, the Greek Premier, the Russian Foreign Minister, Stojan Vovakovich, the former Serbian Prime Minister, act as presiding officer over the peace conference. It had previously been thought that Venizelos would be chosen as presiding officer, but on account of the peculiar condition between Greece and Turkey, he decided to withdraw.

The negotiations of the delegates will be conducted in secret, but it is possible that it may be decided to issue official statements from time to time during the meeting.

The conference will open on Tuesday at St. James's Palace. The allies will present the totality of their demands to Turkey, and will divide the booty according to the terms of a treaty has been signed.

The delegation from Turkey is uncompromisingly firm in declaring that the conference of the allies is a purely Turkish affair, and that the delegates will be conducted in secret, but it is possible that it may be decided to issue official statements from time to time during the meeting.

The principal figure in the altercation was Constable T. A. Davis, who attained notoriety several months ago as a result of his attempts to stop an automobile at Seven Pines, the driver of which, W. H. Martin, later died as a result of an accident at first attributed to the constable.

Details of the occurrence last night were meagre, but from the narrative of Constable Couch it appears that Davis, in company with his father-in-law, Special Policeman Vincent, boarded the car for Seven Pines at Twenty-ninth and P Streets shortly after 6 o'clock yesterday evening. All went well until the car reached Stop No. 26. After that point it was said that the constable began to use loud and offensive language. He later engaged in an altercation with a negro standing near him over a debt of 25 cents.

**Row on Platform.**

Conductor Couch attempted to reason with him, but was met only by curt replies. The quarrel with the negro, which the conductor says was largely a matter of fun, became a scuffle. Not wishing to have the rear platform of the car obstructed by such actions, Couch ordered Davis to stop. Davis, he says, was not disposed to comply.

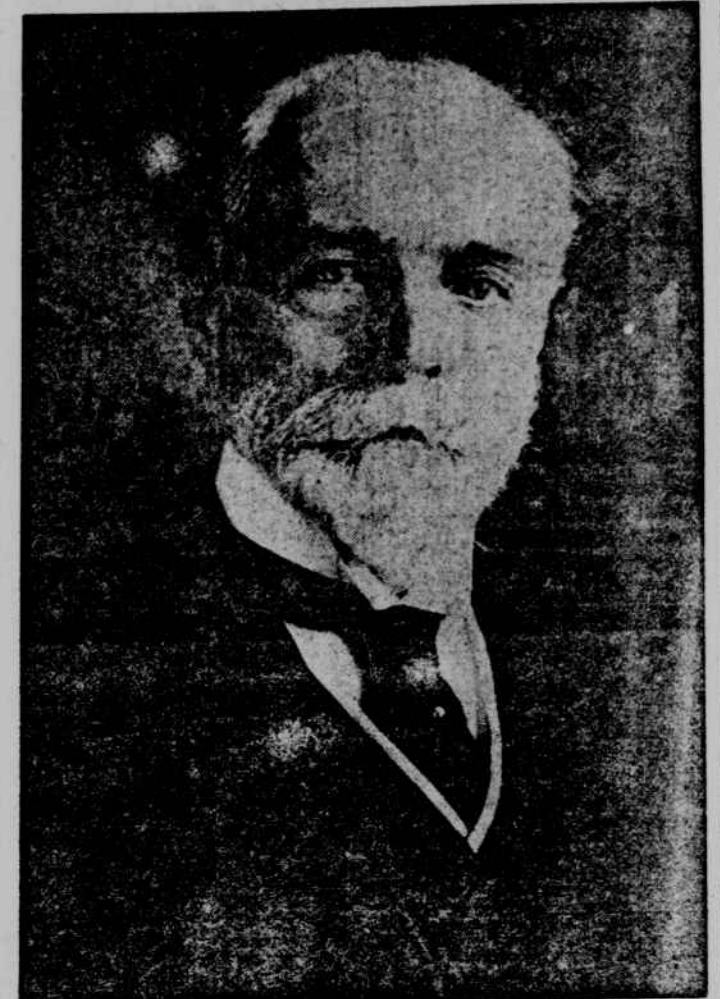
When the conductor told the officer that he wished no trouble, but that he was not afraid and intended to have his order, it is said that the latter drew his opponent to the ground, and the conductor's duty required that he remain with his car, he refused.

When the car reached Fair Oaks, a number of passengers alighted. Among them was Davis. Couch also stepped to the ground for the purpose of flanking the car at the railroad crossing. It happened that the outward rush of passengers threw him next to Davis when he reached the ground. He says the conductor's duty required that he remain with his car, he refused.

Seeing the fight, Special Policeman Vincent came up and placed Couch under arrest. The motorman, noting that no one came to the front of the car to flag it across, alighted and ran to the rear to see what the difficulty might be. In the general melee that followed, Davis is said to have struck Throckmorton over the head several times. Blood immediately began to flow.

(Continued on Fourth Page.)

American Ambassador Ill



London, December 14.—Whitehall Reid, American ambassador to the Court of St. James, was much exhausted to-night, despite the continued administration of oxygen by the specialists in attendance at Dorchester House. Though encouraging bulletins were given out, it was said the physicians had the gravest fears.

Bulletins issued by the physicians late this afternoon said that Ambassador Reid was very weak and tired, but had slept, and no immediate crisis was feared.

The ambassador, who is seventy-five years old, has not been well since he delivered an address late in October at the opening of the University of Wales. The trip taxed his strength and brought on a return of his old asthmatic ailment. Since returning to London he has been out of Dorchester House very little. It was learned to-night that Ogden Mills, Reid's old friend, called by his father's illness. Whitehall Reid is the owner of the New York Tribune, and has been ambassador to Great Britain since 1905.

COUNTY OFFICERS FIGHT CAR MEN

Motorman and Conductor Roughly Handled by Thomas A. Davis.

GENERAL ROW AT FAIR OAKS

Trouble Occurred Over Scuffle in Car—Throckmorton in Grace Hospital.

As a result of a free-for-all row between several Henrico County officers and street car men of the Richmond and Rappahannock Railway, which took place at Fair Oaks last night, Motorman L. N. Throckmorton lies at Grace Hospital, seriously injured by blows about his head, and Conductor W. H. Couch is suffering from heavy bruises, having been unable to continue his work after the occurrence.

The principal figure in the altercation was Constable T. A. Davis, who attained notoriety several months ago as a result of his attempts to stop an automobile at Seven Pines, the driver of which, W. H. Martin, later died as a result of an accident at first attributed to the constable.

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(Continued on Fourth Page.)

EXPECTS GREAT PUBLIC EXPOSE

Committee Confident of Sensations in Money Trust Hearing.

MERELY SURFACE HAS BEEN SKIMMED

Members Express Satisfaction With Information Secured and Say That Flagrant Abuses Have Been Shown—Recommendations for Remedial Legislation to Be Made.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

Washington, December 14.—"We've only skimmed the surface so far," this was the declaration to-night of a member of the money trust investigating committee. Confident that a great public expose of the amazing exchanges and banks—has only begun, the committee this afternoon began its results of its week's work and laid lines for more exhaustive inquiry next week.

Privately, the probers expressed great satisfaction with the information disclosed during the last week's hearings. They declared that abuses demanding correction have been clearly shown. It was learned authoritative that recommendations for legislation to meet certain of the alleged financial abuses will follow within a month or six weeks.

Necessity for such legislation is based upon the following principal developments of the inquiry so far:

**Gambling Exists.**

That gambling exists in the New York Stock Exchange, to an extent at least.

That most brokers consider "short selling" of stocks legitimate.

That stock brokers have been operated to and investors and bankers, as well as damaging, sometimes, the operators themselves.

That stocks have been violently manipulated by a single operator.

That the New York Stock Exchange compels its members to trade in securities listed on that of the "curb" exchange.

That the exchange sells for \$100,000 a year its quotations to the Western Union Telegraph Company for distribution to all points of the world.

That brokers rehypothecate securities of their customers.

That a small per cent of stock sold is actually transferred on corporation's books.

That securities of brokers who fail are first used to pay other brokers before customers or creditors are cared for.

That six "governors" of the Stock Exchange control the membership and listing of stocks.

**Under No Control.**

As to clearing houses, a recapitulation of the week's testimony shows:

That clearing houses are voluntary organizations, without Federal or other supervision.

That some clearing houses prescribe arbitrarily both the loan rates and interest rates to members.

That some giant institutions are controlled by "voting trustees," with the directors as mere "dummies."

That banks may be closed by refusal of the clearing house to "clear" for them.

That issues of great stock are only partially restricted and supervised by national authority.

How each of three banks in New York, with over \$400,000,000 assets, is controlled by three voting trustees was a startling phase of the testimony.

Next week the committee quiz promises to turn from the Stock Exchange and clearing houses to the alleged concentration of wealth by the system known as "interlocking directorates."

While the Fols committee is securing the facts, the cries of reform are being considered by another committee of the House Banking Committee, invested with authority to investigate currency reform. This committee, headed by Representative Glass, of Virginia, will begin hearings January 6 to consider the currency plan and whether other reforms presented by eminent currency experts.

JUDGE LINDSEY A "SPUG"

Quickly Surrenders When Caught by One of Its Missionaries.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

New York, December 14.—Judge Ben R. Lindsey, of Denver, wore the button of the Society for the Prevention of Unlawful Giving at the Waldorf-Astoria to-day when he spoke of his experience with children in children's courts. A missionary for the "spug" caught him every in the day, and he surrendered without a protest.

Judge Lindsey attacked the present school system, and predicted that it would have to be changed, but he did not name the remedy. He said:

"At one time I was dealing with a boy who had been brought before me for shooting craps. He finally said, after I had pleaded with him, 'Well, judge, I won't shoot craps if you don't want me to, but I don't play fair.'"

"When I asked him for his meaning, he took me into the street and showed me one of a lot of rowing houses. 'There, a hundred guys come out of the house every morning after gambling all night, and the police just wink at 'em, so I says they ain't playin' fair when they put us.' This is the system that produces your 'daddy Louie' and 'Gyp the Bloods,' and it is for the existence of these things that you, as a community, must be held responsible."

**Crockett's Statement.**

Mr. Crockett's statement, which speaks for itself, is as follows:

From information that I have received in regard to the Russell County

(Continued on Third Page.)

LOW HOLIDAY RATES

Via Southern Railway Route of the "Richmond Special." Departure from Richmond 8 P. M. Daily, with electric-lighted sleeping car 10:30 A. M. and 8:30 P. M. to all the South. Information at N. E. Main St.—Advertisement.

**Real Service to California.** standard or tourist. Letter personally conducted without charge daily, except Sunday. Berth, 18. Wash-Winnetka Route, N. E. Main—Adv.

STUDENTS—TAKE NOTICE. New and Quickest service to your home for holidays. Leave Richmond 8 P. M. Daily, via Southern Railway, with through sleeping car for Atlanta and Birmingham, and direct connections beyond. Also two other limited trains daily. Call or write Mr. E. Main St. Telephone Madison 22—Advertisement.